Book Review

Douglas J. Kennet and Bruce Winterhalder. 2006. **Behavioral Ecology and the Transition to Agriculture.** (ISBN 0-520-24647-0, hbk.). University of California Press, California/Princeton Fulfillment Services, 1445 Lower Ferry Road, Ewing, NJ 08618, U.S.A. (**Orders:** www.ucpress.edu/, 609-883-1759, 609-883-7413 fax). $60.00, 407 pp., 3 b/w photos, 31 line illustrations, 22 maps, 30 tables, 7" × 10".

Human behavioral ecology (as in the Foreword) focuses on how and why people have chosen, in social and cultural contexts, to exploit particular resources. From the Preface: "This volume examines "one of the most fundamental economic shifts in human history—the evolutionary transition from foraging to farming through processes of plant and animal domestication and the emergence of agriculture. The chapter authors use a variety of geographically dispersed case studies and analytical approaches, including subsistence choice optimization, central place foraging, discounting, risk minimization, and costly signaling theory. Their contributions are novel in presenting regionally comprehensive case studies that address the transition to agriculture from a consistent conceptual framework informed by neo-Darwinian theory." A collection of 14 technical but readable papers.—*Guy Nesom, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, 509 Pecan Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102-4068, U.S.A.*

Book Notice

W. Shengyi, Peter H. Raven, and H. Deyuan (editorial co-chairs). 2006. **The Flora of China, Volume 22, Poaceae.** (ISBN 1-930723-50-4, hbk.). Missouri Botanical Garden Press, P.O. Box 299, Saint Louis, MO 63166-0299, U.S.A. (**Orders:** 877-271-1930, http://www.mbgpress.org) $140.00, 752 pp., 9" × 11 1/2".

"Volume 22 of the Flora of China is the 12th of a 25-volume work. It includes a single family, the Poaceae, which in China comprises 28 tribes, 226 genera, and 1795 species, among which seven genera and 809 species are endemic to China." Except for the protracted list of Asian Bambuseae genera (34), the similarity in genera between China and North America is remarkable. The Chinese grass flora also is close in size to the North American one (north of Mexico), perhaps even 20% greater in number of species. The first of two volumes of the FNA treatment was published in 2003; it will be published in early 2007. Many recent changes in concepts of grass genera are incorporated in the Chinese flora, presumably making it parallel and comparable with the FNA treatments.—*Guy Nesom, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, 509 Pecan Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102-4068, U.S.A.*